

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicant(s): Nitin Sopanrao PATIL et al.

Serial No: 10/596,227

Group Art Unit: 1797

Filed: June 5, 2006

Examiner: Ernest G. Therkorn

Att. Docket No.: A1181/20002

Confirmation No.: 3774

For: PROCESS FOR THE PURIFICATION OF MACROLIDES

PROVISIONAL ELECTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the species election requirements set forth in the May 21, 2008 Office Action, Applicants hereby make the following provisional elections without traverse.

Election I

Applicants provisionally elect silver pretreated silica gel as the form of silica. Claims 1-8 are generic to the elected species. Claim 9 reads on the elected species.

Election II

Applicants provisionally elect ethyl acetate as the water-immiscible solvent. Claims 1-10 are generic to the elected species.

Election III

Applicants provisionally elect ethyl acetate as the crystallization solvent. Claims 1-10 are generic to the elected species.

Election IV

Applicants provisionally elect tacrolimus as the macrolide. Claims 1-10 are generic to the elected species.

Election V

Applicants provisionally elect fermentation as the method of obtaining a macrolide. Claims 1-4 and 9-10 are generic to the elected species and claim 7 reads on the elected species.

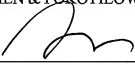
Application Serial No. 10/596,227
Provisional Election Dated 6/23/2008
Response to Office Action of 5/21/2008

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in good form for initial examination on the merits. Accordingly, prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for initial examination and allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN,
COHEN & POKOTILOW, LTD.

By



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June 23, 2008

Please charge or credit our Account
No. 03-0075 as necessary to effect
entry and/or ensure consideration of
this submission.